

A JOINT RESOLUTION

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 9, SECTION 14 OF THE
CONSTITUTION OF NEW MEXICO TO BROADEN ELIGIBILITY FOR VIETNAM
VETERANS' SCHOLARSHIPS.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. It is proposed to amend Article 9, Section
14 of the constitution of New Mexico to read:

"Neither the state nor any county, school district or
municipality, except as otherwise provided in this
constitution, shall directly or indirectly lend or pledge its
credit or make any donation to or in aid of any person,
association or public or private corporation or in aid of any
private enterprise for the construction of any railroad;
provided:

A. nothing in this section shall be construed to
prohibit the state or any county or municipality from making
provision for the care and maintenance of sick and indigent
persons;

B. nothing in this section shall prohibit the
state from establishing a veterans' scholarship program for
Vietnam conflict veterans who are post-secondary students at
educational institutions under the exclusive control of the
state by exempting such veterans from the payment of tuition.

For the purposes of this subsection, a "Vietnam conflict

veteran" is any person who has been honorably discharged from the armed forces of the United States, who was a resident of New Mexico at the original time of entry into the armed forces from New Mexico or who has lived in New Mexico for ten years or more and who has been awarded a Vietnam campaign medal for service in the armed forces of this country in Vietnam during the period from August 5, 1964 to the official termination date of the Vietnam conflict as designated by executive order of the president of the United States;

C. the state may also establish by law a program of loans to students of the healing arts, as defined by law, for residents of the state who, in return for the payment of educational expenses, contract with the state to practice their profession for a period of years after graduation within areas of the state designated by law; and

D. nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the state or a county or municipality from creating new job opportunities by providing land, buildings or infrastructure for facilities to support new or expanding businesses if this assistance is granted pursuant to general implementing legislation that is approved by a majority vote of those elected to each house of the legislature. The implementing legislation shall include adequate safeguards to protect public money or other resources used for the purposes authorized in this subsection. The implementing legislation

shall further provide that:

(1) each specific county or municipal project providing assistance pursuant to this subsection need not be approved by the legislature but shall be approved by the county or municipality pursuant to procedures provided in the implementing legislation; and

(2) each specific state project providing assistance pursuant to this subsection shall be approved by law. "

Section 2. The amendment proposed by this resolution shall be submitted to the people for their approval or rejection at the next general election or at any special election prior to that date which may be called for that purpose.